(a) whether Government are aware about the facts of excess final allocation made wrongly by Government in respect of State Government employees of Chhattisgarh/Madhya Pradesh though Government have its own guidelines;

(b) if so, how many cases are alike; and

(c) why Government are not reviewing such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (d) Based on the recommendations of the State Advisory Committee, 219 persons, whose option for Chhattisgarh was in excess of filled and vacant posts in the cadre and who had submitted representations before the State Advisory Committee for allocation to Chhattisgarh on the basis of their option, were finally allocated by the Central Government against the overall requirement of the successor State of Chhattisgarh.

(c) Does not arise.

Financial losses due to holidays

†4902. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of financial loss caused to Government as a consequence of holidays falling every year stating the loss to be caused by one holiday;

(b) the number of holidays in the year 2003 and the loss likely to be caused by these holidays; and

(c) whether Government propose to curtail the number of holidays falling every year with a view to minimizing the increasing loss to exchequer and strengthen the economic condition; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) Holidays/ working hours, in different organizations are fixed keeping in view the status of the organization and its functional requirements, and therefore vary accordingly. Man power requirements for any organization are worked out keeping in view various factors like holidays, leave entitlement, training reserve, leave reserve etc. Since holidays are already factored into the manpower requirements, there is no financial loss, to the Government due to holidays.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Central Government administrative offices observe 17 holidays in a year as per the prescribed procedure. During the year 2003, there are 13 effective holidays after excluding holidays falling on Saturdays and Sundays.

(c) The holidays policy has been reviewed over the years and the number of holidays have been reduced progressively from 23 in 1960 to the existing level on an average 13-14 effective holidays every year after excluding holidays falling on Saturdays and Sundays. The number of bank holidays notified by the respective State Governments/Union Territories under the Negotiable Instrument Act have also been reduced since 2002-2003 to the maximum holidays of 15 days in a year as compared to holidays varying from 17 to 30 days in a year in different States/Union Territories. The holiday policy of the Central Government is reviewed from time to time.

Study of workload rationalisation in Government Offices

4903. SHRI BALBIR K. PUNJ: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the Planned and Non-planned expenditure figures in Central Government Ministries (including its Undertakings) for financial Year 2001-2002;

(b) whether there has been any effort by Government for downsizing of bureaucracy (Group A); and

(c) whether Government has carried out any study for workload rationalization in Government offices?

THE MINISIER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) The total Plan and Non-plan expenditure of the Central Government Ministries (including its Undertakings) in the Financial Year 2001-2002 was Rs.1,01,193.65 crores and Rs.2,61,259.15 crores respectively.

(b) The details of efforts made by the Government in rightsizing its workforce, including Group 'A' posts, are as under:—

(i) As a result of 10% across-the-board cut imposed with reference to the sanctioned strength as on 1.1.1992, so far 1.73 lakh posts have been abolished so far in various Departments;

(ii) Out of about 42,000 posts identified by the Expenditure Reforms Commission for abolition in 36 Ministries/Departments as reviewed by the Commission, 13,000 posts have been abolished so far; and